

CLAIMS

1. Use of a histacalin protein (as defined above) in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of allergic rhinitis.

5 2. Use according to claim 1, wherein said histacalin protein is derived from a blood feeding ectoparasite.

3. Use according to claim 2, wherein said histacalin protein is derived from a tick.

4. Use according to claim 1, wherein said histacalin protein is the MS-HBP1, FS-HBP1, FS-HBP2 or D.RET6 protein, a functional equivalent thereof or an active fragment thereof.

10 5. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein a pharmaceutically-acceptable excipient is also used in the manufacture of the medicament.

6. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein one or more antihistamine agents or anti-sedative agents is also used in the manufacture of the medicament.

15 7. A method of treating or preventing allergic rhinitis comprising administering to a subject a histacalin protein as described in any one of claims 1 to 4, or a pharmaceutical composition as described in either one of claims 5 and 6 in a therapeutically-effective dosage.

8. Use according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a method according to claim 7, wherein
20 said allergic rhinitis is seasonal or perennial allergic rhinitis.